

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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In re Appln. Of: TANABE et al.

Serial No.: 09/612,551

Filed: July 7, 2000

For: SEMICONDUCTOR THIN FILM FORMING SYSTEM

Group: 1725

Examiner: GEOFFREY S. EVANS DOCKET: NEC WNZ-2212

MAIL STOP 16
Director of the US Patent and Trademark Office
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Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

REQUEST FOR REFUND

Dear Sir:

This is a request for a refund with respect to the charge of \$180.00 to Deposit Account No. 08-1391 shown on the statement dated June 30, 2003 for the above-identified Patent Application. A copy of the monthly statement in which the error occurs is enclosed.

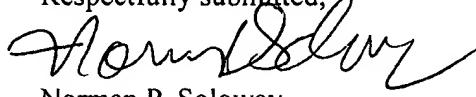
A Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement was submitted to the Patent Office, together with a Statement under 37 CFR 1.97(e) on June 19, 2003, disclosing a Japanese Office Action dated March 19, 2003 (see attached copies of the Supplemental IDS, Statement under 37 CFR 1.97(e), Japanese Office Action and stamped postcard). Thus, the IDS was timely filed, and no fee was necessary.

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Respectfully submitted,



Norman P. Soloway
Attorney for Applicants
Reg. No. 24,315

Serial No. 09/612,551
Docket No. NEC WNZ-2212
Request for Refund

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: MAIL STOP 16, Director of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, PO Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on Oct. 23, 2003 at Tucson, Arizona.

By: Nayal M. Shalane

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLN. OF: TANABE et al.
SERIAL NO.: 09/612,551
FILED: July 7, 2000
FOR: Semiconductor Thin Film Forming System
GROUP: 1725
EXAMNIER: EVANS, GEOFFREY S.
DOCKET: NEC WNZ-2212

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, 22313-1450

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Dear Sir:

In connection with the above-entitled matter, Applicants hereby attach U.S. Patent Office form PTO-1449, including copies of the references listed therein. Where available, English language counterparts and/or abstracts are being provided for Examiner's convenience. These references were cited in the Japanese Office Action dated March 19, 2003 of the underlying Japanese patent application. Enclosed is a copy of the Japanese Office Action, together with an English translation of the relevant portions thereof. The claims in the present application are believed to be patentably distinguished over these references.

This Supplemental Information Disclosure statement is being made pursuant to the duty of disclosure imposed by law and formulated in 37 CFR 1.56(A). No representation is made that the information thus disclosed in fact constitutes prior art or that it is the closest prior art, inasmuch as 37 CFR 1.56(A) relies on a materiality concept which depends on subjectivity.

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Serial No. 09/612,551
NEC WNZ-2212

In compliance with the requirements of 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(3), as a concise statement of relevance, as it is presently understood by the individual designated in 35 U.S.C. § 1.56(c) most knowledgeable about the content of the information, the undersigned attorney of record submits a translation of portions of an official action by a foreign examiner in which the references were cited. The relevance to the pending U.S. patent application is that the references were cited in a foreign patent application on the same subject matter. However, no independent analysis of the references, the accuracy of the statement of foreign examiner or the claims of the foreign application under the laws of the country or the United States relative to the subject matter claimed in the present application has been made; the present understanding of the contents thereof by the undersigned being based on the translation of the foreign examiner's comments submitted therewith.

The enclosed Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement is being submitted within three months of the Japanese Office Action, as certified in the attached Certification for Information Disclosure Statement. Therefore, we believe there are no fees involved with this Information Disclosure Statement. In the event there are additional fees payable, please charge them to our Deposit Account No. 08-1391.

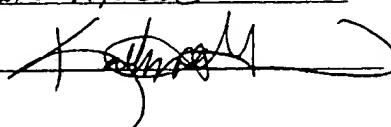
Respectfully submitted,



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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on June 19, 2003 at Tucson, Arizona.

By: 

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